

PATENT  
1390.C2/CPI/PJS  
7828.7063

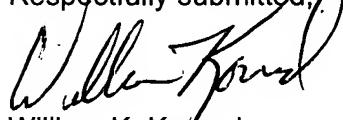
Examination on the merits is respectfully requested and allowance at an early date is  
earnestly solicited.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to:

Patent Counsel  
APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.  
Post Office Box 450A  
Santa Clara, California 95052

Please direct all telephone calls to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

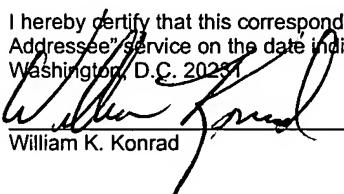


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Date: 1/17/02

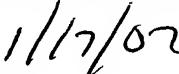
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231



William K. Konrad

(Date)



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Claim 1 is cancelled.

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